

W A S H I N G T O N
H I G H E R
EDUCATION
C O O R D I N A T I N G B O A R D

October 2003

2003-2005 Biennium Child Care Grants

The 2003-2005 state operating budget directs the Higher Education Coordinating Board (HECB) to distribute \$150,000 in state funds for competitive child care grants to the state's public four-year colleges and universities. The Legislature provided a separate pool of funds for child care grants to the community and technical colleges. The Board distributed competitive child care grants to the public four-year institutions in the 1999-2001 and 2001-2003 biennia.

Child care grants are designed to promote high-quality, accessible and affordable child care for students. Following are key requirements of the grant program:

- Grants may be used only to operate a campus child care center or to subsidize the cost of on-site child care for students and faculty. Grants may not be used to build or remodel facilities.
- Applicants must create a partnership between university/college administration and student government.
- Grants must be matched dollar-for-dollar by the university/college administration and/or its student government association (or equivalent). The match may be either in cash or in-kind. Matching funds must complement and augment access to child care for students and may not supplant existing services or resources.
- The \$150,000 appropriation is to be divided equally over the two fiscal years, with \$75,000 available per fiscal year. No single institution may receive more than one-half of the total funds.

Application Process

HECB staff issued a Request for Proposals on August 1, with a deadline for proposals of October 17. A review committee, composed of child care specialists and HECB staff, will meet on October 22 to discuss the proposals and make funding recommendations.

HECB staff will present the review committee's recommendations to the Board on October 29. The committee's recommendations will be available at the Board meeting.